



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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July Unemployment Rate 5.0%

Increases in Wholesale and Retail Trade Jobs, Declines in Manufacturing

NASHVILLE-Tennessee's unemployment rate for the month of July is 5.0 percent, down from the seasonally adjusted June rate of 5.3 percent, Commissioner of Labor & Workforce Development James Neeley announced today. The state rate remains below the July national rate of 6.2 percent.

"Tennessee is experiencing growth in wholesale and retail trade jobs from June to July. There also continues to be growth in health care and social assistance jobs in the monthly figures," said Commissioner Neeley. "We continue to see job losses in durable goods manufacturing."

June-to-July figures show slight employment increases in wholesale/retail trade jobs, up by 2,900. Health care and social assistance jobs increased by 2,100 jobs. Month-to-month decreases took place in government (declining 15,100), mostly in state/local education. Manufacturing decreased 3,500 jobs.

From July 2002 to July 2003, health care and social assistance jobs increased by 10,000. There were also increases in the administrative/support/waste management jobs, up by 5,000. Employment in food services and drinking places increased by 4,300. Decreases took place in manufacturing, down by 13,800. Transportation and warehousing jobs declined by 5,500. Construction jobs decreased by 4,600.

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July 2003 (preliminary) - BM 2002

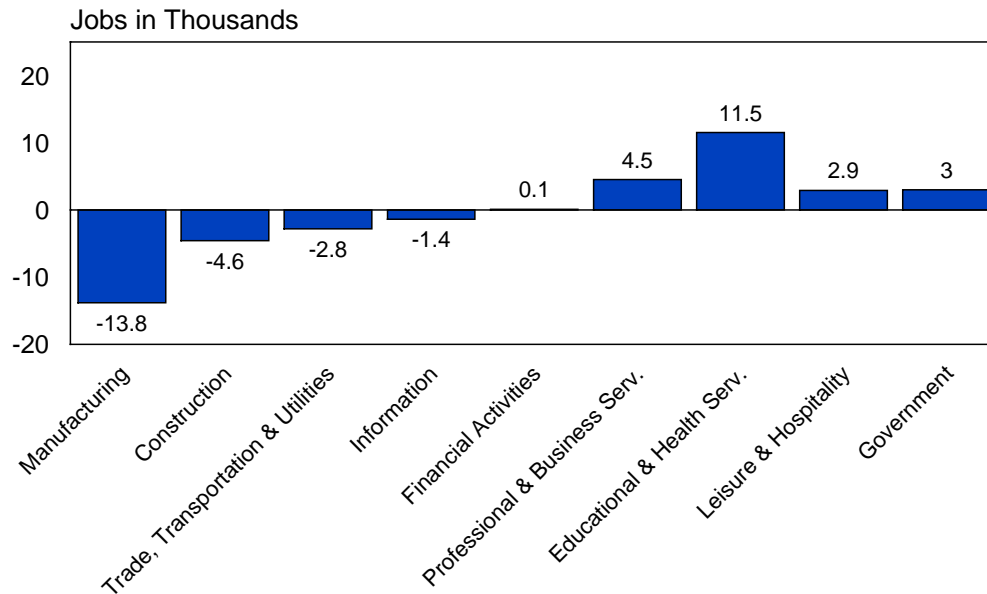
Not Seasonally Adjusted

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - U.S. & TENNESSEE JANUARY 1997 - PRESENT



OVER THE YEAR JOB CHANGES

By Major Industry (July 2002-2003)



*** ATTENTION: County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday August 21, 2003.**

(03-068)

NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "[http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor figures](http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures)".

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

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